programme of work for 1111 is the taking up of the sewering of Fort, Chalai, Puthen Street, etc., and the construction of the East Main sewer along Cochar, the main sewer in the Vanchiyoor valley, along with the installation of the sewage pumping station in the Kuriyathi fields, south of the Chalai Bazar.

As the question of drainage is closely allied to that of water-supply, it is imperative that these two systems should be worked hand in hand. Since schemes for water-works and drainage fall within the category of Specialist Services and in as much as the Chief Engineer, P. W. D., is saddled with the direction and control of a large spending department with a budgetted expenditure of nearly 40 lakhs of rupees per year on communications, buildings, irrigation, etc., it is considered necessary in the interests of efficient and speedy execution of work to constitute the 'Public Health Engineering servics' such as Water Works and Drainage into a separate Department of Government. The new department will be called the Water Works and Drainage Engineering Department. The Head of the Department will be designated Water Works and Drainage Engineer to Government and he will exercise administrative and financial powers in respect of these departments just like the Chief Engineer, P. W. D., who will hereafter be known as the Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation.

The sum of Rs. 2,53,000 provided for water-supply to mofussil Municipalities will, for the present, be met by the Government, the final debit being decided upon after a definite understanding is come to with the Municipalities as regards the portions chargeable to Municipal and General Revenues. Levy of rates to repay or reduce the debt is also being considered. Omitting this item, the Water-Works and Drainage Schemes for Trivandrum are expected to cost Government next year about Rs 10·97 lakhs of which Rs 5·30 lakhs alone pertains to Drainage.

27. *The Town-Planning Scheme.*—Under this scheme, the Avenue road from Kaudiyar to Vellayambalam, work on which was started in 1108 M. E., was completed towards the close of the current financial year. The road with its broad traffic way and side walks, its ornamental parapet walls and pylons, and its two spacious squares and the circle, is to be counted as one among the best town roads in Southern India. The expenditure booked to end of Edavam 1110 on the work is Rs 1·69 lakhs. A sum of Rs one lakh has also been provided in the budget for 1111 to meet the outstanding liabilities and to close accounts.

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[Mr. C. S. Krishnasvami Aiyar.]

To regulate and control the construction of buildings by private agencies on this important thoroughfare, a subsidiary Town-Planning Scheme has been formulated for the area on either side of this road. The area is to be pieced out into rectangular blocks of varying sizes suitable for dwelling houses. As under the scheme the lands of those who are not willing to conform to the Town-Planning proposals have to be acquired and resold in auction, a sum of Rs 0·5 of a lakh has been provided in the budget for 1111 as advance to the Municipality for the temporary acquisition of these lands. The work on the reconstitution of the building sites will be commenced by the beginning of the next year.

Proposals for the improvement of the Main road from Vellayambalam square to the Mascot Hotel have been formulated and the work has been commenced. A sum of Rs ·4 of a lakh has been provided in the budget for this work.

Immediate improvement of the rest of the Main Road from the Cantonment Junction to the East Fort Gate is impracticable owing to the high compensation involved, and hence this portion of the Main Road is proposed to be improved by the method of set backs *i. e.*, whenever a new building is proposed to be constructed it will be removed to the line of the proposed new alignment, so that in course of time the required land for the widening of the road will be clear of buildings.

The other important work proposed to be taken up during the course of the next year is the improvement of the Tampanoor valley. This valley consisting of the low lying lands from the Trivandrum Central Station to the Observatory Hill is mostly inhabited by the poor class of people living under insanitary conditions. Numerous representations have been received from the inhabitants of this area praying for the opening of this valley for proper habitation. A suitable town planning scheme in respect of this area has been framed. The proposals include the construction of a broad central road more or less straight in alignment, from the Railway Station to the foot of the Observatory Hill, and a loop road round the Observatory Hill to connect it to the Main Road, and also the location of public parks, play grounds and swimming baths at convenient places. The working out of this scheme will make available an extent of over 300 acres of land in the very heart of the town for healthy habitation. The lands will be acquired by Government in the first instance and sold for house sites. The cost of roads, public parks, etc., will alone be finally debited to Government while the recoveries on account of sale of house sites will be credited to

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the Advance head. For this work a sum of Rs 5 lakhs has been provided in the ensuing year's budget under Advances.

The investigation for the improvement of the other parts of the town is in progress, and a sum of Rs ·10 of a lakh has been provided in the budget for its continuance. The provision for next year under the Town Planning Scheme will thus be Rs 7 lakhs distributed under the following heads .—

Tampanoor valley Rs 5 lakhs, house sites on both sides of the Avenue Road from Kaudiyar to Vellayambalam Rs ·50 of a lakh, both of which are provided for under Advances, and Rs 1·50 lakhs charged to Revenue.

COMMERCIAL UNDERTAKINGS.

28. *Rubber Factory.*—Last year, it was stated that the opening of a Government Rubber Factory at Chackai, Trivandrum, was then in contemplation. The preliminary investigations were conducted by Mr. Helen of Lakshmi Rubber Mills, Karachi, who has since been appointed as Engineer and Rubber Expert. The Factory buildings have been completed and the machinery required, purchased and erected. The factory is likely to commence work in a couple of weeks. The house will be interested to be informed in this connection that the machinery required for the factory was purchased on compensation basis, Travancore coir yarns and other articles, being exchanged to the extent of the value of the machinery ordered.

The capital outlay on the Rubber Factory at the end of the current year is expected to amount to Rs 3·77 lakhs. As the factory will be working in full swing next year a sum of Rs 75,000 has been provided for the purchase of raw materials and Rs 15,000 for establishment and contingent charges. A capital non-recurring expenditure of Rs 10,000 has also been provided for. It is hoped that the receipts for the next year would amount to Rs 50,000.

Clay Refining Factory.

29. As a result of the investigations conducted by Government in consultation with Ceramic Experts such as Mr. Deb of Calcutta, Mr. Doger Sing of the Benares Hindu University and Mr. Roy of United Provinces on the possibilities of opening a Clay Refinery and Porcelain Factory in Travancore, it has been disclosed that there are large areas of land in the Quilon Division, particularly the places adjoining the Kanjirode lake and extensive areas in the Perinad Pakuthy, Quilon Taluk, containing large deposits of excellent China clay, suitable for the manufacture of high class porcelain. In view of the possibilities of using the bye-products in the process of

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